

Message Text

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ORIGIN SSM-05

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 IO-11 ISO-00 OC-05 CCO-00 SS-15 INR-07

SAB-01 L-03 IGA-02 AID-05 CIAE-00 ACDA-07 NSC-05

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, IS, EG

SUBJECT: MAINTENANCE OF LINES OF COMMUNICATION (LOC)

1. THE PROBLEM OF UPGRADING AND MAINTAINING THE ROAD NETWORK WITHIN THE BUFFER ZONE IS YET TO BE RESOLVED. RESPONSES TO QUESTIONS RAISED BY THE DIRECTOR, SSM, DURING HIS RECENT VISIT, WERE INCONCLUSIVE AND A REVIEW OF THE SINAI II AGREEMENT REVEALS THAT THE SUBJECT WAS NOT ADDRESSED AS A MATTER OF RECORD FOR THE NORTHERN ZONE. WE HAVE ALSO DISCUSSED THIS WITH UN SECRETARIAT AND THEY ARE OF THE OPINION THAT IT IS INHERENT WITHIN THE UNEF MISSION TO MAINTAIN THE LOC'S TO THE BEST OF THEIR LIMITED CAPABILITY BUT NOT TO ANY SPECIFICATION. FURTHER, THE PRIORITY OF EFFORT HAS BEEN DELEGATED TO THE FIELD COMMAND AND ANY REPAIR IN A GIVEN AREA WILL HAVE TO BE NEGOTIATED THROUGH GENEAL SIILASVUO OR HIS REPRESENTATIVE.

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2. IT HAS BECOME APPARENT THAT THE UN DOES NOT AND PROBABLY WILL NOT HAVE THE WHEREWITHAL TO MAINTAIN THE 340 KM'S (APPROX) OF ROADS WITHIN THE BUFFER ZONE, IN THEIR PREVIOUS CONDITION, WITHOUT SIGNIFICANT ASSISTANCE. WE CANNOT, OF

COURSE, FILL THE VACUUM CREATED BY THE PULLBACK OF THE IDF, HOWEVER, WE MAY BE ABLE TO PROVIDE LIMITED EMERGENCY AID SUCH AS FILLING POTHoles AND PLOWING SAND (NO SURFACING), WITHIN OUR CAPABILITY, ON SOME OF THE ROADS WITHIN THE EARLY WARNING AREA. IN EXCHANGE FOR THIS WE WOULD LIKE TO OBTAIN A COMMITMENT FROM THE UN TO UPGRADE, EITHER WITH ORGANIC OR CONTRACTED ASSETS, THOSE ROADS OF PRIMARY CONCERN TO US. THESE INCLUDE THE NORTH-SOUTH ROAD BETWEEN GIDDI AND MITLA PLUS THE ROAD LEADING FROM THE GIDDI ROAD TO CHECKPOINT B. (FYI. WE HAVE ASKED CONTRACTOR TO SUBMIT PROPOSAL TO A) PLACE ASPHALT SURFACE ON PERMANENT BASE CAMP ROADS IN LIEU OF EMULSION AND B) TO PLACE SAME TYPE OF SURFACE ON ROAD BETWEEN TEMPORARY AND PERMANENT BASE CAMPS. A DECISION WILL BE MADE ON THESE ITEMS ON RECEIPT OF PROPOSALS. END FYI)

3. IN ORDER TO DO THIS WE NEED TO UNDERSTAND BETTER JUST WHAT CAPABILITIES IN TERMS OF EQUIPMENT OR CONTRACTING AUTHORITY THAT THE UN HAS TO ACCOMPLISH THIS, PERHAPS AS A COOPERATIVE EFFORT WITH SFM. IN ANY EVENT WE SEE THE NEED TO ESTABLISH EARLY ON CLEAR GUIDELINES AND AN EQUITABLE WORKING ARRANGEMENT THROUGH DISCUSSIONS WITH THE UN.

4. WE RECOGNIZE THAT ANY ADDITIONAL USE OF THE EQUIPMENT ACQUIRED FOR IMPROVEMENT/MAINTENANCE OF THE BASE CAMP AND WATCH STATION AREAS MAY HAVE AN ADVERSE IMPACT. THEREFORE, SUGGEST CALLAWAY AND ESY ANALYZE OUR PROJECTED SCOPE OF EFFORT TO DETERMINE TO WHAT DEGREE THAT EQUIPMENT CAN BE USED AS SUGGESTED ABOVE. WE WOULD LIKE TO HAVE BENEFIT OF THEIR ANALYSIS PRIOR TO ANY DEFINITIVE DISCUSSIONS WITH THE UN.

5. IT HAS BEEN REPORTED THAT GOE DESIRES TO IMPROVE THE ROAD FROM PORT SUEZ THROUGH CHECKPOINT ALPHA TO CHECKPOINT GOLF WHICH IS HIGHLY DESIRABLE FROM OUR STAND-LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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POINT. RECOMMEND YOU EMPLOY "PERSONAL DIPLOMACY" TO ASSIST WITH COORDINATION BETWEEN GOE AND UN IN SUPPORT OF THIS PROJECT.

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